

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the last two lines at page 34 of the specification.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 37, line 4 from the bottom, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The electrostatic developer according to the present invention can be obtained by externally or internally adding the spherical silica fine particles to the base toner particles. If the amount of spherical silica fine particles is less than 0.01 part by weight relative to 100 parts by weight of the toner, the resulting toner may have insufficient fluidity. If it is more than 20 parts by weight, the toner may have deteriorated electrostatic properties and image-fixing properties. Thus, the amount of the spherical silica fine particles is preferably in a range from 0.01 part by weight to 20 parts by weight, and more preferably from 0.1 part by weight to 5 parts by weight, relative to 100 parts by weight of the toner. The base toner particles and the spherical silica fine particles can be mixed according to any procedure using a device such as a V-type blender, ~~Henschel mixer~~ HENSCHEL MIXER, ribbon blender, Raikai mill, or the like. The spherical silica fine particles can be adhered to the surface of the base toner particles, be fused thereto or be incorporated in the base toner particles.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 38, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The oxide fine particles for use in the present invention preferably contains at least one metal element (a dopant compound) mentioned below as constitutional elements in addition to the silicon element (a silicon compound). As the dopant compound, compounds and oxides of at least one element belonging to Groups II, III, and IV and the third or higher period of the Periodic Table of Element are more preferred. Examples of such metal

elements are Mg, Ca, Ba, Al, Ti, V, Sr, Zr, Sn, Si, Zn, Ga, Ge, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, and the like. Among them, Ti and Zn are particularly preferred.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 101, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The developing device 40 serving as the image-developer includes a developer bearing member serving as an endless developing belt 41. A black (referred to as Bk) developing unit ~~[[45K]]~~ 45 Bk, a yellows (referred to as Y) developing unit 45Y, a magenta (referred to as M) developing unit 45M and a cyan (referred to as C) developing unit 45C are arranged side by side in the vicinity of the developing belt 41. The developing belt 41 is spanned around a plurality of rollers and driven by a motor or similar driving device (not shown) in the direction indicated by an arrow in FIG. 1. At a position where the developing belt 41 comes in contact with the photoconductor 10, the developing belt 41 moves at substantially the same speed as the photoconductor 10.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 144, line 3 from the bottom, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The above raw materials were mixed in a ~~Henschel mixer~~ HENSCHEL MIXER and thereby yielded a mixture in which pigment aggregates were impregnated with water. The mixture was kneaded in a twin-roll mill at a roll surface temperature of 130°C for 45 minutes, was rolled and cooled, was pulverized using a pulverizer and thereby yielded a pigment master batch (Master Batch).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 145, below the Table, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The above materials were mixed in a mixer, were then melted and kneaded in a two-roll mill three or more times, and the kneaded article was rolled and cooled. The resulting article was pulverized in a pulverizer (I-Type Mill, available from Nippon Pneumatic MFG. Co., Ltd.) of a jet mill breaker disc system, was subjected to air classification by action of a revolving current using a DS classifier (available from Nippon Pneumatic MFG. Co., Ltd.) and thereby yielded black particles having a volume-average particle diameter of 5.5 μm . The black particles were further mixed with 3.0% by weight of the oxide fine particles 1 and 1.0% by weight of a hydrophobic silica (a product of Clariant Japan K.K. under the trade name of HDK H 2000) having a primary particle diameter of 10 nm in a ~~Henschel mixer~~ HENSCHEL MIXER, the resulting mixture was allowed to pass through a sieve with an aperture of 50 μm to remove aggregates and thereby yielded a black toner (Black Toner 1). The wax was dispersed in the toner in a diameter of 0.5 μm .

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 146, below the first Table, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The above raw materials were mixed in a ~~Henschel mixer~~ HENSCHEL MIXER and thereby yielded a mixture in which pigment aggregates were impregnated with water. The mixture was kneaded in a two-roll mill at a roll surface temperature of 130 °C for 45 minutes, was rolled and cooled, was pulverized in a pulverizer and thereby yielded a pigment master batch (Master Batch).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 146, below the second Table, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The above materials were mixed in a mixer, were then melted and kneaded in a two-roll mill three or more times, and the kneaded article was rolled and cooled. The resulting

article was pulverized in a pulverizer (I-Type Mill, available from Nippon Pneumatic MFG. Co., Ltd.) of a jet mill breaker disc system, was subjected to air classification by action of a revolving current using a DS classifier (available from Nippon Pneumatic MFG. Co., Ltd.) and thereby yielded yellow particles having a volume-average particle diameter of 5.5 μm . The yellow particles were further mixed with 3.0% by weight of the oxide fine particles 1 and 1.0% by weight of a hydrophobic silica (a product of Clariant Japan K.K. under the trade name of HDK H 2000) having a primary particle diameter of 10 nm in a ~~Henschel-mixer~~ HENSCHEL MIXER, the resulting mixture was allowed to pass through a sieve with an aperture of 50 μm to remove aggregates and thereby yielded a yellow toner (Yellow Toner 1). The wax was dispersed in the toner in a diameter of 0.5 μm .

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 147, below the Table, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The above raw materials were mixed in a ~~Henschel-mixer~~ HENSCHEL MIXER and thereby yielded a mixture in which pigment aggregates were impregnated with water. The mixture was kneaded in a two-roll mill at a roll surface temperature of 130°C for 45 minutes, was rolled and cooled, was pulverized in a pulverizer and thereby yielded a pigment master batch (Master Batch).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 148, below the Table, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The above materials were mixed in a mixer, were then melted and kneaded in a two-roll mill three or more times, and the kneaded article was rolled and cooled. The resulting article was pulverized in a pulverizer (I-Type Mill, available from Nippon Pneumatic MFG. Co., Ltd.) of a jet mill breaker disc system, was subjected to air classification by action of a

revolving current using a DS classifier (available from Nippon Pneumatic MFG. Co., Ltd.) and thereby yielded magenta particles having a volume-average particle diameter of 5.5 μm . The magenta particles were further mixed with 3.0% by weight of the oxide fine particles 1 and 1.0% by weight of a hydrophobic silica (a product of Clariant Japan K.K. under the trade name of HDK H 2000) having a primary particle diameter of 10 nm in a ~~Henschel mixer~~ HENSCHEL MIXER, the resulting mixture was allowed to pass through a sieve with an aperture of 50 μm to remove aggregates and thereby yielded a magenta toner (Magenta Toner 1). The wax was dispersed in the toner in a diameter of 0.5 μm .

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 149, below the first Table, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The above raw materials were mixed in a ~~Henschel mixer~~ HENSCHEL MIXER and thereby yielded a mixture in which pigment aggregates were impregnated with water. The mixture was kneaded in a two-roll mill at a roll surface temperature of 130 °C for 45 minutes, was rolled and cooled, was pulverized in a pulverizer and thereby yielded a pigment master batch (Master Batch).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 149, below the second Table, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The above materials were mixed in a mixer, were then melted and kneaded in a two-roll mill three or more times, and the kneaded article was rolled and cooled. The resulting article was pulverized in a pulverizer (I-Type Mill, available from Nippon Pneumatic MFG. Co., Ltd.) of a jet mill breaker disc system, was subjected to air classification by action of a revolving current using a DS classifier (available from Nippon Pneumatic MFG. Co., Ltd.) and thereby yielded cyan particles having a volume-average particle diameter of 5.5 μm . The

cyan particles were further mixed with 3.0% by weight of the oxide fine particles 1 and 1.0% by weight of a hydrophobic silica (a product of Clariant Japan K.K. under the trade name of HDK H 2000) having a primary particle diameter of 10 nm in a ~~Henschel mixer~~ HENSCHEL MIXER, the resulting mixture was allowed to pass through a sieve with an aperture of 50 μm to remove aggregates and thereby yielded a cyan toner (Cyan Toner 1). The wax was dispersed in the toner in a diameter of 0.5 μm .

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 160, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

To 1200 parts of water were added 540 parts of a carbon black (a product of Degussa AG under the trade name of Printex 35) [DBP oil absorption: 42 ml/100-mg, pH: 9.5] and 1200 parts of a polyester resin. The mixture was blended in a ~~Henschel mixer~~ HENSCHEL MIXER (a product of Mitsui Mining Co., Ltd.), was kneaded using a two-roll mill at 130° C for 1 hour, was rolled and cooled, was pulverized in a pulverizer and thereby yielded Master Batch 1.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 162, line 5 from the bottom, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Filter Cake 1 was dried in a circulating air drier at 45 °C for 48 hours, was sieved through a mesh with an aperture of 75 μm and thereby yielded Toner particles 1. Toner particles 1 were mixed with 3.0% by weight of Oxide Fine Particles 1 and 1.0% by weight of a hydrophobic silica (a product of Clariant Japan K.K. under the trade name of HDK H 2000) having a primary particle diameter of 10 nm in a ~~Henschel mixer~~ HENSCHEL MIXER, the mixture was allowed to pass through a sieve with an aperture of 50 μm to remove aggregates and thereby yielded a toner. The determined properties of the toner and physical properties of

the oxide fine particles used are shown in Tables 1 and 2, respectively.